Crimes against women

†2836. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether crimes like rape, murder, dowry harassment against the women have increased during 2002-2003 in comparison to the previous years;

(b) the names of the States in which maximum murder of such crimes took place and fresh steps being taken to check the crimes against women which are on the increase; and

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to enact a law for the capital punishment for the offence of rape?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) As per available data with the National Crime Records Bureau, rape and dowry death cases declined by 2.1% and 2.4% respectively in 2001 over 2000. However, the cases of cruelty by the husbands and their relatives increased by 7.3% in 2001 over 2000 at the all India level.

(b) and (c) The highest number of rape cases during 2000 and 2001 were reported from Madhya Pradesh and the highest number of dowry death cases during these years were reported from Uttar Pradesh. The highest number of cases of cruelty by husbands and their relatives were reported from Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh during 2000 and 2001 respectively.

Comprehensive changes in the law to protect women from sexual abuse are receiving the attention of Justice Malimath Committee on criminal justice reforms. However, there is no proposal to provide for capital punishment for rape under consideration of the Government at the moment.

Arrangements made to tackle natural calamities

†2837. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive arrangements have been made by Government to tackle the natural calamity in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.